

Rio Tinto

Kennecott Utah Copper
4700 Daybreak Parkway
South Jordan, Utah 84095
801-569-7128 (o)
801-569-7192 (f)

Kelly L. Payne, P.G.
Manager – Environment

2 September 2011

VIA EMAIL AND US MAIL

Ms. Kim Shelley
Utah Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Quality
P.O. Box 144870
195 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870

Subject: UPDES Permit UT000051
Additional and corrected information for tailings release on 25 July 2011

Dear Ms. Shelley:

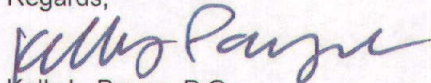
Pursuant to Part II.I.3 of our UPDES Permit, KUC submitted a report to you dated 28 July 2011 regarding a tailings slurry release on 25 July 2011. This letter provides additional and corrected information regarding the 25 July release.

As part of KUC's investigation into the incident, we have determined that the duration of the release was 20 minutes rather than the duration reported in the 28 July report. Based on this duration and corrections to other inputs and assumptions, KUC calculates that approximately 400,000 gallons of slurry were released containing approximately 255 tons of tailings solids. Calculations for the release were based on estimating the area covered by tailings slurry and the depth of deposited solids; water volume was calculated using an assumed percent solids of the released slurry.

Following submittal of the 28 July report, KUC received laboratory analytical data for the solid fraction of the release. Our calculations indicate that a Reportable Quantities (CERCLA 103) of arsenic was exceeded, predominantly due to the small concentration of arsenic in the tailings solids. A copy of those analytical results is attached. Based on these data, KUC determined that reporting to the National Response Center was required. KUC made this report on 5 August 2011 (Case Number 985090).

If you have any questions regarding this event, please feel free to contact me or Scott Wheeler at (801) 569-7817.

Regards,



Kelly L. Payne, P.G.
Manager - Environment

Enclosures

cc: Dan Hall, DEQ-DWQ, via email
Douglas Bacon, DEQ-DERR, via email
Leslie Helper, DNR-DOGM, via email

M103510002
cc: Leslie.

RECEIVED E-Mail

SEP 06 2011

Div. of Oil, Gas & Mining



Kennecott Environmental Laboratory

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Sample Type: EPA Method 3050 B TOTAL METALS

3325 South 9200 West
Magna, UT 84044-6001
Phone (801) 569-7952
Fax (801) 569-7901

Date: 04-Aug-11

To: SCOTT WHEELER

Sample Preparation: SWA 846 Method 3050 B

Submission Date: 7/26/2011

Metals Analysis: SWA846 Methods 6010B and 7471

QC Reference Sample:

Lab No.	Sample Description	Collection Date	Analysis Date	Analyte	Result	Reporting Limits	Units
AT10808	TAILING LINE E-50 FT	7/25/2011	1/1/1981	pH Paste	PENDING	5	
			7/25/2011	Moisture %H2O	27.14		%
			7/28/2011	Arsenic	6	4	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Barium	100	2	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Cadmium	Below PQL	1	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Chromium	220	2	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Lead	17	3	mg/kg
			8/3/2011	Mercury	Below PQL	0.10	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Selenium	Below PQL	5	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Silver	Below PQL	5	mg/kg
			1/1/1981	Soil Paste Conductivity	PENDING	5	umhos/cm
AT10809	TAILING LINE E-400 FT	7/25/2011	1/1/1981	pH Paste	PENDING	5	
			7/25/2011	Moisture %H2O	29.12		%
			7/28/2011	Arsenic	6	4	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Barium	82	2	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Cadmium	Below PQL	1	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Chromium	186	2	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Lead	26	3	mg/kg
			8/3/2011	Mercury	Below PQL	0.10	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Selenium	Below PQL	5	mg/kg
			7/28/2011	Silver	Below PQL	5	mg/kg
			1/1/1981	Soil Paste Conductivity	PENDING	5	umhos/cm

Approved by

Approved by: Melissa R. Olsen
KEL Laboratory Director